



PATENT
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 99,252-A)

1746
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8/15/02

In re Application of:

Mertens, et al.
Serial No.: 09/998,889
Filed: November 1, 2001
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
REMOVING A LIQUID FROM A
SURFACE

Group Art Unit: 1746
Examiner: Not yet assigned

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

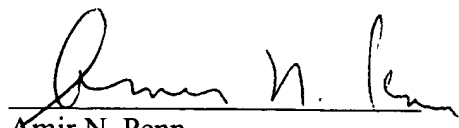
In regard to the above-identified application:

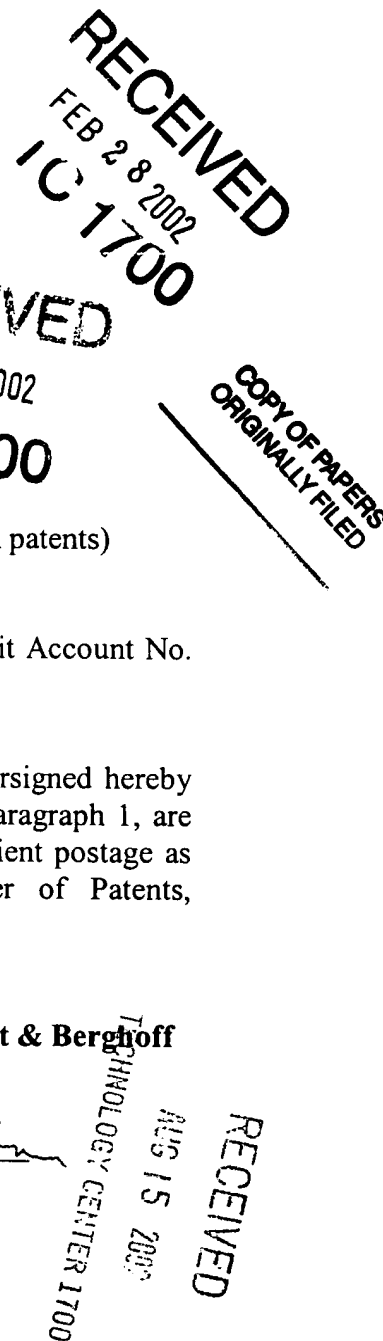
1. We are transmitting herewith the attached
 - a. Information Disclosure Statement
 - b. Form PTO-1440
 - c. Copies of cited references (Total 7 US patents and 4 foreign patents)
 - d. Return receipt postcard
2. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2490. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
3. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper described in paragraph 1, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 5th of February, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Date: February 5, 2002

By:


Amir N. Penn
Reg. No. 40,767





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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure provided by 37 §§ C.F.R. 1.56 and 1.97-98, the applicant wishes to make the references listed in the enclosed Form PTO-1449 of record in the above-identified application.

It is requested that the references be given careful consideration and that they be cited of record in the present application so that they will appear on the face of the patent issuing from the present application. Return of the initialed PTO-1449 indicating the Examiner's consideration of the references is requested.

In the judgment of the undersigned, portions of the references may be material to the examination of the pending claims. However, the references have not been reviewed in sufficient detail to make any other representation and, in particular, no representation is intended as to the relative importance of any portion of the references. This Statement is not a representation that the cited references have effective dates early enough to be "prior art" within

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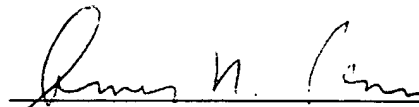
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the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 102 or 103. This information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission that the statement or cited references are, or are considered to be, material to patentability. 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (h).

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Amir N. Penn
Reg. No. 40,767

DATED: February 5, 2002

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